

From wang!elf.wang.com!ucsd.edu!info-hams-relay Sat Mar 23 02:42:36 1991 remote
from tosspot
Received: by tosspot (1.63/waf)
via UUCP; Sat, 23 Mar 91 09:47:02 EST
for lee
Received: from somewhere by elf.wang.com id aa04289; Sat, 23 Mar 91 2:42:34 GMT
Received: from ucsd.edu by relay1.UU.NET with SMTP
(5.61/UUNET-shadow-mx) id AA02478; Fri, 22 Mar 91 20:31:15 -0500
Received: by ucsd.edu; id AA05354
sendmail 5.64/UCSD-2.1-sun
Fri, 22 Mar 91 13:13:25 -0800 for brian
Received: by ucsd.edu; id AA05260
sendmail 5.64/UCSD-2.1-sun
Fri, 22 Mar 91 13:12:57 -0800 for /usr/lib/sendmail -oc -odb -oQ/var/spool/
lqueue -oi -finfo-hams-relay info-hams-list
Message-Id: <9103222112.AA05260@ucsd.edu>
Date: Fri, 22 Mar 91 13:12:55 PST
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams-relay@ucsd.edu>
Reply-To: Info-Hams@ucsd.edu
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V91 #223
To: Info-Hams@ucsd.edu

Info-Hams Digest Fri, 22 Mar 91 Volume 91 : Issue 223

Today's Topics:

 Easily EM shielding building windows. A new product.
 Frequently Asked Questions for Amateur Radio
 Fun with Balloons and long wires! (3 msgs)
 Ham interference on Cable TV?
 Hamtronics
Help with Tektronix 661 scope, General Radio Co. connectors.
 Hints & Kinks for taking the General code test
 Indiana Balloon Flight
 New Technician Frequencies
 New to ham...what to buy?
 phone stuff in cw bands
 STS-37 FSTV
 upgrade from no-code tech
Whither J. Meshna? (Western MA surplus electronics dealer)

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: 14 Mar 91 19:06:32 GMT
From: gatech!usenet.ins.cwru.edu!agate!usenet@ucsd.edu
Subject: Easily EM shielding building windows. A new product.
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

This was in the Usenet comp.risks group. It seems this might put a serious damper on ham and cellular activities, no? Fortunately, I imagine that this would probably only see use in specialized applications. I bet the military will love this.

=====8<=====8<=====8<====CUT HERE=====8<=====8<=====8<=====

RISKS-LIST: RISKS-FORUM Digest Wednesday 13 March 1991 Volume 11 : Issue 27

FORUM ON RISKS TO THE PUBLIC IN COMPUTERS AND RELATED SYSTEMS
ACM Committee on Computers and Public Policy, Peter G. Neumann, moderator

Date: Mon, 11 Mar 91 18:07 BST
From: "Olivier M.J. Crepin-Leblond" <UMEEB37@vaxa.cc.imperial.ac.uk>
Subject: EM solution for new buildings - risk solved?

I have read in this month's British Airways Business magazine that Pilkington's, the UK's glass manufacturer has attempted to tackle the problem of electromagnetic spying with a new "shielded" glass.

The glass sheets are similar to the ones usually mounted on new sky-scrapers, with a shiny surface. However, this metallic film can be tied to earth, thus providing shielding which stops any electromagnetic radiation from leaving the building. It is therefore impossible to hack inside information from outside by picking-up electromagnetic radiation. Solutions were very costly up to now, with actual physical shielding of the building using metallic plates etc.

Olivier M.J. Crepin-Leblond, Comms.Sys., Imperial College, London, UK.
disclaimer: I am NOT related to Pilkington Glass or British Airways in any way !

Will Marchant Center for Extreme Ultraviolet Astrophysics
marchant@ssl.berkeley.edu University of California
KC6ROL Berkeley, CA 94720 USA

Date: 18 Mar 91 20:49:33 GMT
From: hpfcso!hpfcdc!perry@hplabs.hpl.hp.com
Subject: Frequently Asked Questions for Amateur Radio
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

>Don't stop at 27.990...Listen all the way up into the ham bands at least to
>28.150. The CW portion of the ten meter band is virtually unusable on the
>weekends when the band is open. I know I know.. all us old fart CW operators
>
> richard currier marine physical lab u.c. san diego

I have a militant suggestion for us CW ops that are being encroached upon on 28.000-28.150. You see, 10m is this really funny band, with DX fading in and out all the time. I mean, if two different QSOs are on the same frequency, only separated by the good intentions of the DX gods, then who is at fault when the DX gods go on coffee break ? This happened to me during the last Field Day on 20 meters, leading to some friction over Who Owns the Frequency.

This has also occurred on 10 meters, except the other operators are the freeband type. Imagine my surprise to find myself calling da-di-da-dit da-da-di-da on the same frequency as a voice user. I politely asked him if I should move, but got no response. Tried again. No response. Well, maybe he couldn't hear me, so Old Betsy gets warmed up and we attempt to get their attention again, this time at 5 w..o..r..d..s p..e..r m..i..n..u..t..e. Well, heck, after I go to all this trouble, the guy just leaves.

Yup, the QSB makes 10 meters a really funny band.

;-)

Perry Scott
KF0CA

Date: 15 Mar 91 14:28:19 GMT
From: usc!apple!uokmax!skaggs@ucsd.edu
Subject: Fun with Balloons and long wires!
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <19630@brahms.udel.edu> moyer@brahms.udel.edu (Eric Moyer) writes:
>
> I'm with the University of Delaware ARA and we're thinking about putting
>a huge long wire antenna onto the end of a balloon and floating it up
>above the shack. We'll probably use good 'ol 22 gauge magnet wire, so

>the weight won't be all that great, but I haven't calculated it yet. I'd

Lots of good stuff deleted...

Eric, for field day a few years ago, our club used 500 ft. of insulated, number 20 stainless steel wire (I know, I know, but we had it, OK?) and 5 ft. diameter when inflated advertising balloons. One shot in the morning and a brief top-up during the heat of the day kept these in the air through the entire field day period. Signal reports were great. Winds were mercifully light that year, so the slope was not bad and we even had a light on it at night. Don't limit yourself artificially. If you want to try a long vertical (remember odd take off angles!) DO IT!

73 de Gary ..._._

>
> Eric P. Moyer /----- You are a fluke of the universe. -----/
> moyer@brahms.udel.edu / You have no right to be here. /
> Into the night as.... / Whether you can hear it or not, /
> KA3YED on 28.460 MHz /--- The universe is laughing behind your back. -/

Gary Skaggs - WB5ULK skaggs@nssl.gcn.uoknor.edu DOC/NOAA/ERL/NSSL
"Listen, I'm a politician. That means I'm a cheat and a liar, and
when I'm not kissin' babies, I'm stealin' their lollipops..."
Jeffery Pelt, The Hunt for Red October.

Date: 14 Mar 91 23:23:47 GMT
From: gatech!udel!brahms.udel.edu!moyer@ucsd.edu
Subject: Fun with Balloons and long wires!
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I'm with the University of Delaware ARA and we're thinking about putting a huge long wire antenna onto the end of a balloon and floating it up above the shack. We'll probably use good 'ol 22 gauge magnet wire, so the weight won't be all that great, but I haven't calculated it yet. I'd like to try a 40 meter antenna if I can get enough lift.

The problem is this; helium is going to be an expensive option, and will probably take many balloons. But constructing a hot air balloon whose thrust can be controlled from the base station poses many problems including 1) how to provide the heat? Butane? How do we ignite it? Do we just throttle back when we want to turn it down, or turn it off and reignite it with a spark when we need lift again? 2) how should we provide control signals for the thrust? Will the antenna emissions blow the pants out of any radio-control circuitry we attempt to construct?

As for the antenna, I was planning to construct a winch that could be

let out to raise the balloon. I was going to run the actual antenna wire around the winch, connected at the end to the shaft, which would in turn be connected to the transmitter through a brush assembly. Would it be better to add the weight of mooring the ballon with fishing line to reduce possible antenna strain? My guess was that the strain would be negligible.

I'd be glad to receive any comments on the above, and would be overjoyed to hear of any past experiences with balloon antennas.

```
Eric P. Moyer          /----- You are a fluke of the universe. -----/
moyer@brahms.udel.edu  /           You have no right to be here.           /
Into the night as....  /           Whether you can hear it or not,         /
KA3YED on 28.460 MHz   /--- The universe is laughing behind your back. -/
```

Date: 14 Mar 91 15:48:31 GMT
From: decctl!news.crl.dec.com!shlump.nac.dec.com!decuac!haven!udel!
brahms.udel.edu!moyer@decwrl.dec.com
Subject: Fun with Balloons and long wires!
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

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```
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Into the night as....  /           Whether you can hear it or not,         /
```

KA3YED on 28.460 MHz /--- The universe is laughing behind your back. -/

Date: 20 Mar 91 16:51:43 GMT
From: usc!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!unix.cis.pitt.edu!dsinc!netnews.upenn.edu!
platypus!bill@ucsd.edu
Subject: Ham interference on Cable TV?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Because the channel experiencing interference is Cable Channel 18, which just happens to overlap the 2 meter band, I don't think anything the cable company is going to will relieve the problem. The system in my house is a lot more sophisticated than the average Cable TV installation (ie. I terminate unused ports on the in house cable system) and I cannot eliminate interference on that channel. Luckily for me, the programming on that channel is not one of the most popular in the area (it's not HBO :-). Your best bet is to have some local hams get together with the Cable Engineering staff when the complaints start rolling in and explain the whole thing to them. Then try and convince them that the best solution is to abandon the use of that channel. I have never seen a place where hams and Cable Channel 18 have been able to peacefully co-exist.

bill KB3YV

--

Bill Gunshannon		If this statement wasn't here,
bill@platypus.uofs.edu		This space would be left intentionally blank
bill@tuatara.uofs.edu		#include <std disclaimer.h>

Date: 21 Mar 91 19:23:47 GMT
From: epic!karn@bellcore.bellcore.com
Subject: Hamtronics
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Hamtronics stuff is **highly** variable.

Some of their products, like the infamous FM-5 voice transceiver, are pure junk. There's no interstage shielding whatsoever, and the PC board is single sided; there's not even a ground plane on the component side. I long ago gave up trying to tune the transmitter (with a spectrum analyzer) so it wouldn't shower the band with parasitics. The receiver works, but it's not exceptional. And given that crystal-controlled transceivers were last state of the art in 1975, there's not much point in buying one now, especially not at the price they're asking.

Their newer converters, on the other hand, are much better. I have built their 70cm transmitting and receiving converters and they work well. They seemed to have learned their lesson about interstage shielding - each stage of the 70cm transmitting converter is shielded, the PC board has a ground plane, and the design uses newer components like the SBL-1 double balanced mixer. The receiving converter is pretty good too, as long as you get the newer model that also uses the SBL-1.

In short, examine the unit's design closely before you buy. And avoid the FM-5 like the plague, no matter how cheap it is.

Phil

Date: 21 Mar 91 05:26:27 GMT
From: sdd.hp.com!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!ub!kitty!larry@ucsd.edu
Subject: Help with Tektronix 661 scope, General Radio Co. connectors.
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1991Mar20.064855.2635@lynx.CS.ORST.EDU> youngqd@jacobs.cs.orst.edu (Dean Youngquist) writes:

>I have acquired a Tektronics Type 661 oscilloscope but have no probes
>for it. It doesn't use the standard BNC for probes but instead has
>something called a General Radio Universal Connector.
>...
> Does anyone have an address for General Radio Co., now called GenRad?
> Any source of these connectors would be helpful. I would also like
> to buy a manual for the Tek 661 scope if anyone has one.

GenRad is located in Concord, MA.

However, you may find that the cost of purchasing connectors from GenRad may exceed the value of your sampling oscilloscope, which is an oldie. I would suggest that you forget about GenRad and simply canvas some electronic surplus dealers to find cables or connectors.

I should also point out that one can rather effectively (and without damage) insert a standard banana plug in the center of the GenRad connector. This may leave something to be desired when used with fast risetime signals, though. :-)

Larry Lippman @ Recognition Research Corp. "Have you hugged your cat today?"
VOICE: 716/688-1231 {boulder, rutgers, watmath}!ub!kitty!larry
FAX: 716/741-9635 [note: ub=acsu.buffalo.edu] uunet!/\aerion!larry

Date: 20 Mar 91 14:58:50 GMT
From: swrinde!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!unix.cis.pitt.edu!dsinc!wells!
k3tx@ucsd.edu
Subject: Hints & Kinks for taking the General code test
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1370@gargoyle.uchicago.edu>, hayward@gargoyle.uchicago.edu (Peter Hayward) writes:

> :
>
> The ARRL VEC has announced that it will be going to multiple choice
> over the next few months.
> --
> Peter B. Hayward University of Maine WX9T

101 I'm generally a staunch supporter of ARRL

102 But in their handling of the VE program I find
them sadly lacking

103 The latest nonsense of trying to "take over"
W5YI is one instance;

104 The fact that their code tests have been compromised
right from the start;

105 The "shift" to multiple choice - which I'd heard rumored]
but haven't seen confirmed yet.

106 I've been holding to W5YI for testing; have run about
80 sessions myself;

107. Have shifted to true=false for code tests.

108. They're rough - but fair.

109 Those who can copy should get 100%.

110 Those who guess will not pass.

111 Our scoring is: 10 pts per correct, 0 for blank, -10 for wrong.

112 For example, how many tests actually require copying the
punctuation and other garbage that MUST be sent?

113 Ours DO

114 Or SHOULR D the tests be giveaways?

115 The written tests are nearly giveaways

116. The question pools aren't hard to memorize.

117 E.g., a licensee (reportedly now EXTRA) who hasn't the faintest idea what an OHMMETER is.

K3TX

Who passed in front of an unsmiling but FAIR FCC examiner.

Date: 21 Mar 91 15:51:51 GMT
From: sdd.hp.com!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!maverick.ksu.ksu.edu!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!
csrd.uiuc.edu!s30.csrd.uiuc.edu!look@ucsd.edu
Subject: Indiana Balloon Flight
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

With weather permitting, on March 23, the Aerospace Technology class of Franklin High School along with Chuck Crist WB9IHS, Robert McAuliffe W9PRD, and Bill Brown WB8ELK will launch a 5 foot helium balloon. The package will consist of an ATV transmitter with 1 watt on 439.25 Mhz, a 2m FM beacon with 750mw on 144.340 Mhz, and a 10m CW beacon with 100mw on 28.321 Mhz. The ATV transmitter will be fed by a video camera pointing down at the Earth and will also have a color ID with the call WB9IHS. The two meter transmitter will carry the call W9PRD. These two signals are expected to be received in a radius of about 400 miles when the balloon reaches 100,000 ft. The 10m transmitter may be heard over much of North America. A net will be run by Emmett K9YKX on 3871 Khz or 7232Khz as an alternate depending on band conditions. A rain date of April 6 is planned. This balloon package complies with all Part 101 of FAA regulations. The launch will take place in Franklin, Indiana.

--
Steve Look ka9szw Center for Supercomputing R & D
look@s30.csrd.uiuc.edu 305 Talbot Lab 104 S. Wright
(217) 244-5980 Urbana, IL 61801
"No, we don't have any CRAYS here, they are down the street..."

Date: 20 Mar 91 08:29:40 GMT
From: usc!sdd.hp.com!uakari.primite.wisc.edu!caen!news.cs.indiana.edu!
ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!phil@ucsd.edu
Subject: New Technician Frequencies
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

sdkuo@argo.acs.oakland.edu (Steve Kuo) writes:

>I plan to get my Technician class license soon by studying the old questions
>that I have (01nov89). The contents is pretty much the same from what
>I've heard, but I think the frequencies have changed. Here is the amateur
>band that I have effective 01-Nov-89. If someone could please send me
>the changes in band(s) I would much appreciate it.

>3700-3750 kHz/CW

3675-3725 as of 16-Mar-91

>7100-7150 kHz/CW

>21.1-21.2 MHz/CW

>28.1-28.5 MHz/CW

>28.3-28.5 MHz/Telephony

28.1-28.3 MHz/digital

>50.0-54.0 MHz/CW

>50.1-54.0 MHz/Telephony

50.1-54.0 allows a lot of modes

>144.0-148.0 MHz/CW

>144.1-148.0 MHz/All

>220.0-225.0 MHz/All (that has changed I think?)

Soon, soon.

>420.0-450.0 MHz/All (this can't be right?)

Right! However much of Michigan cannot use the 420-430 portion.

>902.0-928.0 MHz/All

>1240.0-1300.0 MHz/All

2300-2310

2390-2450

3300-3500

5650-5925

10.000-10.500 GHz

24.000-24.250

47.000-47.200

75.500-81.000

119.980-120.020

142-149
241-250
300-inf
--

```
/*****\
< Phil Howard -- KA9WGN -- phil@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu >
\*****/
```

Date: 15 Mar 91 15:13:00 GMT
From: swrinde!elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!sdd.hp.com!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!
magnus.acs.ohio-state.edu!csn!boulder!bohemia!f510.n5000.z200.METRONET.ORG!
Gary.Box@ucsd.edu
Subject: New to ham...what to buy?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Whoh! One thing at a time. First, the tabletop receivers by Icom
Kenwood and others are excellent for receiving all modes. You could
always sell it to by a transceiver when you get a license. To decode
modes such as packet, ritty, amtor etc. you need an all mode TNC and
a computer. For an antenna for receiving, a long wire (100ft or
more) is more than adequate. I encourage you to find Amateur Radio
Classes in your area, or pick up "Tune In the World With Amateur
Radio" from the ARRL. The novice license, or new no-code tech
license are easy to get with a little study. Then you can skip
buying the receiver and get a newer Transceiver such as a Kenwood
440 which can also receive between the Ham Bands.
You'll find it a lot of fun.
Gary N0JCG

* Origin: The Computer Lab (200:5000/510)

--

=====
Gary Box - via MetroNet node 200:5000/301
The Bohemia BBS System, Boulder Colorado (303)449-8946
UUCP: Gary.Box@f510.n5000.z200.METRONET.ORG
or : ...!boulder!bohemia.METRONET.ORG!510!Gary.Box
=====

Date: 19 Mar 91 20:44:28 GMT
From: swrinde!cs.utexas.edu!asuvax!ukma!aunro!aupair.cs.athabascau.ca!rwa@ucsd.edu
Subject: phone stuff in cw bands
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

oo7@ut-emx.uucp (Derek Wills) writes:

>Tonight and last night, I have been hearing what sound like Canadian
>hams prattling away on USB at 3505 KHz, right where most of the 80m

This is certainly A Bad Thing.

> [...]

>I admit that I didn't wait around to hear the calls (none given during
>the few minutes I listened), the accents were VE-ish. I haven't come
>across anything similar on any of the other HF bands - yet.

Now, now, you **know** that we VEs don't have accents; it's the Ws and
Ks and Gs and VKs and ZLs that have accents :-) [apologies to those I
have failed to offend :-)].

All I can offer is that, lately, conditions on 80 have been
exceptionally good and perhaps they didn't (these alleged VEs) realize
how well they were getting out. Have you copied the Asian trawler
operators chattering away on 3550 USB? Now **they're** loud, and they
never ID.

And BTW, did I ever tell you about the Ws and Ks stomping on our
nightly traffic net @ 3740 (Alberta Public Safety Net)? CW signals
that would sometimes knock your rig off the desk :-).

I will monitor for these fellows. Happy DX.

--

--

Ross Alexander rwa@cs.athabascau.ca (403) 675 6311 ve6pdq
"Go on! Shoot me again! I enjoy it! I love the smell of burnt feathers
and gunpowder and cordite!" -- Daffy Duck, "Duck! Rabbit! Duck!"

Date: 22 Mar 91 01:09:05 GMT

From: swrinde!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!lavaca.uh.edu!menudo.uh.edu!nuchat!buster!
garym@ucsd.edu

Subject: STS-37 FSTV

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

pgc@csadfa.cs.adfa.oz.au (Phil Clark) writes:

>I have not been able to find the frequency (ies) that are going to be used
>for fast-scan TV on the upcoming STS-37 mission in early April.
>(I do have the list for the voice, SSTV and packet frequencies.)

The fast-scan TV experiment is uplink only, they will not be transmitting FSTV from the shuttle, only receiving.

>If there is someone out there who knows the TV frequencies, could you please
>email them to me.

Only the stations that are scheduled to uplink video are being given the uplink frequency.

Uplinking video to the shuttle takes a significant signal. Most (all?) ground stations participating in the experiment are using 400 watt amplifiers provided by the Motorola Amateur Radio Club, plus about 15-18db antenna gain. It is expected that about 15kw ERP is required on the 430 Mhz band. Ground stations also need special authorization from the FCC since a FSTV signal is wider than the currently allocated satellite band.

--GaryM N5QWC

Date: 19 Mar 91 14:50:09 GMT
From: swrinde!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!pacific.mps.ohio-state.edu!linac!att!emory!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary@ucsd.edu
Subject: upgrade from no-code tech
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <2640@cruzio.UUCP> brettb@cruzio.UUCP (Brett Breitweiser) writes:
>

>Just passed "no-code" tech and want to go back next month to upgrade.
>Query is: should I learn code at 5wpm (I know the dit-dah combos but
>need to develop "my ear") or should I just go straight to 13 wpm and
>the general test? Seems like I could and should just develop my ear at
>13 wpm, know I could pass the written test easily. Does anyone have
>experience with this? Seems like 5wpm then 13 wpm track might be
>duplicate effort. Please e-mail your advice. Thanks!

Yes, yes, yes! Learn the code elements at the speed you intend to operate. Otherwise you will have to learn all over again and it's harder when you have to forget the first sounds. At least for me. I learned the code at 5wpm in order to get a license (Novice). It took me about 6 weeks. I then spent a very tough year relearning code at 13 wpm for the general. I have no intention of wasting 5 years to learn 20 wpm. Now code has always been a struggle for me and your experiences may be different, but I believe that learning the code first at a speed low enough to separate the individual dots and dashes in your mind is a bad mistake. I have friends who started at 20 wpm and were ready in the same 6 weeks it took me to master 5 wpm.

In article <1991Mar19.040529.2481@fs7.ece.cmu.edu> apaeth@taurus.ece.cmu.edu (Alan Paeth) writes:

J. Meshna has gone to the great reward in the sky... :- (3 or 4 years ago.

I am not sure what happend to the inventory, I didn't see an auction even though I try to follow such things.

Steve Finberg P.O. box 82 MIT Br
w1gs1@athena.mit.edu Cambridge MA 01239

End of Info-Hams Digest
